

[7 March, 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

(c) if so, the action taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir. The proposal to declare 'Construction' as an Industry has been under consideration with the Task Force on Infrastructure headed by Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.

(b) and (c) Government have recently notified 'Construction' as an approved activity for financing by the Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI) under Section 2 (c) (xvii) of Industrial Development Bank of India Act, 1964.

Recognition to IGNCA by UNESCO

*167 SHRI KARTAR SINGH DUGGAL: Will the MINISTER OF CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that UNESCO has recognised IGNCA as Regional Centre for Culture and Development Studies;

(b) if so, whether IGNCA has brought out any outstanding publications in pursuance of the objectives for which it was created;

(c) the details of the more important multi-disciplinary seminars etc. organised by the Centre; and

(d) the cultural, artistic and development studies projected by the Centre during the current year?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIANANTH KUMAR): (a) According to the information received, UNESCO has not formally recognized IGNCA as Regional Centre for Culture and Development Studies. However, one of the UNESCO Chairs set up in India on the recommendations of the Indian National Commission for UNESCO is in the IGNCA.

(b) Ten publications have been brought out by the IGNCA.

(c) The major activities of the IGNCA are reported in the Annual Reports of the Department of Culture which are available in the Parliament Library.

(d) The current studies of IGNCA include (i) Study of 100 villages all over the country for identifying the trends of development and (ii) preparation of a lexicon/glossary of concepts and technical terms basic to the Indian Artistic tradition.